

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 14, 2018

The Honorable James N. Mattis
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Mattis,

As members of the House defense-minded committees we appreciate your dedication to moving the Department of Defense (DOD) to embrace cloud technology, as well as using full and open competition, but we write today with concern about the Department's plans to issue a final request for proposal (RFP) for cloud computing services by early May 2018.

DOD currently has issued a second draft RFP (Number HQ003418R0077-JEDI_Cloud_DRAFT_RFP) for cloud computing services across the Department. Pursuant to this draft RFP, the Department intends to solicit bids for a single award - indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity - contract for up to ten years, costing billions of taxpayer dollars.

In the recently-passed Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, Congress noted DOD desire to "accelerate and streamline the acquisition of cloud computing services at multiple levels across the Department," and expressed its concern "about the proposed duration of a single contract, questions about the best value for the taxpayer, and how to ensure the highest security is maintained." The bill directed two reports from you and Deputy Secretary Shanahan to address these concerns and we are now in the process of review.

Despite the language contained in the Omnibus, on Monday, March 26, 2018, the Pentagon's "JEDI Cloud Team" released a "second draft solicitation package" during the third week of April, and stated the "projected timeframe for releasing the final solicitation in early May 2018 remains unchanged."

Furthermore, in the National Defense Authorization Act passed out of the House Armed Services Committee on May 9, language was included asking for additional reports requesting information on migration costs and timelines, how the contract will "enable the Department of Defense to continuously leverage and acquire new cloud computing capabilities, maintain the ability of the Department to leverage other cloud computing vendor products and services, incorporate elements to maintain security, and provide for the best performance, cost, and schedule to meet the cloud architecture and services requirements of the Department for the duration of such contract," as well as other matters relating to this acquisition. The language goes on to withhold funding for the initiative pending submission of these reports.

Given all these concerns, we do not understand how the JEDI Cloud Team intends to issue a final solicitation in early May.

We are concerned that the Department is rushing to issue the final RFP despite Congress' stated concerns and without taking the time to fully address them. In every procurement, but especially in a procurement of this magnitude, we must seek to protect precious taxpayer dollars and provide the government with the best security and value possible.

We appreciate your consideration of our questions surrounding this RFP, and we look forward to receiving the additional reports from you and the Deputy Secretary while working alongside you to achieve the most secure, capable, and competitive systems available.

Thank you for your leadership and service to this nation.

Sincerely,



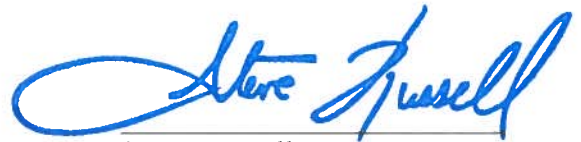
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Member of Congress



John R. Carter
Member of Congress



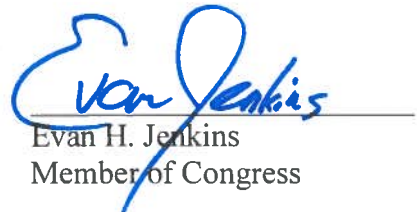
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Steve Russell
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Tom Cole
Member of Congress



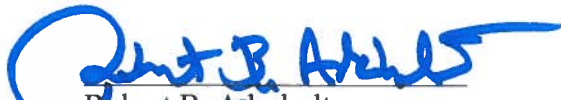
Evan H. Jenkins
Member of Congress



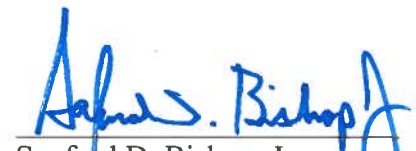
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